

November 29, 1963

STATEMENT OF SERGEANT J. A. PUTNAM

Sergeant J. A. Putnam stated that he was sitting in the front seat (passenger side) of the squad car driven by Lieutenant R. S. Pierce with Sergeant Maxey riding in the back seat behind the driver. Lieutenant Pierce hesitated as the front end of the squad arrived at the sidewalk. At this time Vaughn was standing on the sidewalk in front of the car. He moved to my right and about two feet off the sidewalk into the street and glanced to the east on Main Street and motioned us on. I am not sure he held up his hand to stop traffic or not. Pierce hesitated slightly and drove into the street. I do not remember whether we had to stop at a traffic light on Main and Harwood, but I know we did not stop at Harwood and Commerce. As we stopped at the Commerce Street Ramp a detective was running up the ramp yelling "Cover off the building."

I do not recall seeing anyone to the right of the squad car as we drove out by the Main Street entrance, but a few people were to the left. Captain Talbert and I ran several City employees from the basement. I talked to three porters and had them leave the building.